

# Anchorage Amateur Radio Club

## Meeting on August3rd

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HELP

And Much Much More

#### Officers

|                            |                       |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>President</b>           | Randy Vallee, AL7PJ   |
| <b>Vice President</b>      | Jim Larsen, AL7FS     |
| <b>Secretary</b>           | Keith Clark, WL7CSR   |
| <b>Treasurer</b>           | Richard Block, KL7RLB |
| <b>Trustee</b>             | Jim Feaster, KL7KB    |
| <b>Activities Chairman</b> | TJ Sheffield, KL7TS   |
| <b>News Letter Editor</b>  | Edythe Lynn KL7EL     |
| <b>Membership Chairman</b> | Fred Erickson KL7VC   |
| <b>Past President</b>      | John Lynn, KL7Cy      |

#### Three Year Board Members

Bruce McCormick WL7YR  
Mike Borer, WL7CKB  
David Stevens KL7EB

#### One Year Board Members

Hannelore Kelliher, NL7EA  
Mark Kelliher, KL7TQ  
Jim Tvrdy, KL7CDG  
Bill Reiter, KL7ITI  
Frank Bratt, KL7FSE  
Rob Smith, AL7ML

#### AARC web page & Email contact addresses:

Homepage: <http://home.gci.net/~lawson/>  
Email Reflector: [KL7AA@OTH.NET](mailto:KL7AA@OTH.NET)  
Webmaster: [lawson@gci.net](mailto:lawson@gci.net)  
President: [vallee@gci.net](mailto:vallee@gci.net)  
Membership: [frederickson@iname.com](mailto:frederickson@iname.com)  
Newsletter: [kl7el@arrl.net](mailto:kl7el@arrl.net)

#### News Letter Submissions, Information or corrections:

Submissions must be received 2 weeks before meeting  
Email: [KL0EO@arrl.net](mailto:KL0EO@arrl.net) Facsimile: 907-338-4791  
Mail: 7013 Trafford Ave. Anchorage 99504

#### KL7G CODE PRACTICE SCHEDULE

Schedule: 7:00am, 10:00am, 4:00pm, 7:00pm, 10:00pm  
AK time, every day Frequencies: 3575 kHz, 7075 kHz &  
145.35 MHz: Sending Speeds: 7 wpm

#### Nets in Alaska:

The following nets are active in South-central Alaska:  
Alaska Sniper's Net 3.920 MHz 6:00 PM daily  
Alaska Bush Net 7.093 MHz 8:00 PM daily  
Alaska Motley Net 3.933 MHz 9:00 PM daily  
Alaska Pacific Net 14.292 MHz 8:00 AM M-F  
850 No Name Net 146.85/.25 repeater Sundays 8:00 PM  
Son of Sideband Net 144.20 USB Mondays 9:00 PM local  
Big City Simplex Net 146.520, 446.0, & 52.525 FM Packet  
145.01 Tuesdays 8:00 PM local  
ARES net 147.30/.90 repeater Thursdays at 8:00 PM local  
PARKA net 147.30/.90 Thursdays at 9:00 PM local

#### Anchorage & Mat Valley Area Repeaters

KL7AA systems at Flattop Mt., 2,200 ft  
146.94/34 MHz, 80 watts, autopatch, 100/141.3 Hz PL  
224.94/223.34, 25 watts, no patch, no PL  
444.70/449.70, 25 watts, autopatch, 123.0/141.3 PL  
KL7CC, Anchorage Hillside, SCRC & QCWA  
146.97/.37 MHz, 30 watts, autopatch, 103.5 Hz PL  
KL7M Anchorage Hillside  
147.21/.81 MHz, Internet Iphone, 103.5 Hz PL  
KL7ION at Mt. Gordon Lyon 3,940 ft  
147.30/.90, MHz - 80 watts, no patch, no PL  
KL7AIR Elmendorf AFB, EARS  
146.67/.07, 107.2 Hz PL  
KL7DJE at Grubstake Peak, 4,500 ft.  
147.09/.69 MHz, 25 watts, no patch, 100 Hz PL  
444.925/449.925, 10 watts, no patch, 141.3 Hz PL  
KL7JFU, KGB road, MARA club  
146.85/.25, autopatch, no PL  
KL7DOB, Wasilla in WL7BD's tree  
146.64/.04, simplex patch, no PL  
KL7AA, Mt. Alyeska, 2,400 ft.  
146.76/16 MHz, 25 watts, no patch, 141.3 Hz PL

#### South Central Area Simplex Frequencies

146.52 Mhz Calling and Emergency frequency  
147.57 / 447.57 (crossband linked) HF spotters & chat, 103.5  
HZ PL  
146.49 Mhz Anchorage area simplex chat  
146.43 MHz Mat Valley simplex chat  
147.42MHz Peninsula simplex chat

~~~~ **HOT LINKS** ~~~~

Internet Web links, the favorites from our readers

AARC <http://home.gci.net/~lawson/>

SCRC <http://www.KL7G.org>

EARS <http://www.qsl.net/kl7air>

MARA <http://www.obarr.net/mara/>

Moose Horn ARC <http://www.alaksa.net/~kl7fg>

ARES <http://www.qsl.net/aresalaska>

KL7J <http://www.alaska.net/~buchholz>

Fairbanks AARC: <http://www.kl7kc.com/>

Yukon Amateur Radio Association:

<http://www.klondike.com/yara/index.html>

HAARP Project:

<http://server5550.itd.nrl.navy.mil/projects/haarp/>

<<Amateur Radio Reference Library>>

<http://www.area-ham.org/library/libindex.html>

Hamradio: <http://www.hamrad.com/>

Solar Terrestrial Activity <http://209.130.27.95/solar/>

ARRL <http://www.arrl.org/>

Propagation Report Recording 566-1819

*Please let us know if there are other clubs pages or good starting points that should appear here*

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**ABACUS RADIO REPAIR**

Factory authorized service for: Kenwood, ICOM,  
Yaesu, Alinco, Amateur radio equipment.  
Call Jim Wiley, KL7CC (907) 338-0662

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**NEWSLETTER ARTICLES:** All articles from members and interested persons are very welcome. If you wish to submit any articles, jokes, cartoons, please have it typed or neatly handwritten. It can be submitted by computer disk, fax, or E-mail to the newsletter editor at the address listed on the cover. Submissions must be in the hands of the editor at least two weeks prior to the meeting.



***MISTAKES!***

*If you find any mistakes in our newsletter, especially in the spelling of words, please consider that they are there for a purpose.*

*We publish something for everyone to keep everyone happy, especially those who are always looking for mistakes.....Keep smiling, your Editor*

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**Regular HAM Gatherings:**

**Lunch Tuesdays, 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM:** Join the gang for lunch and an eyeball QSO at the Royal Fork, "South, on Old Seward Highway.

**Breakfast Saturdays, 7:30 AM:** Here is a great way to get started on the week-end come and meet with some of the locals and have a great breakfast at Phillips Restaurant, at the corner of Arctic and International. Great Fun.

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**THIS MONTH'S EVENTS**

**August 3rd: AARC general meeting at 7:00 PM** 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of the month in the Carr-Gottstein Building, on the APU Campus. Talk in will be on 147.300.

**August 7th: EARS general meeting at 7:00 PM** 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month, in the basement of Denali Hall (building 31-270) on Elmendorf AFB. Talk in on 147.67/07 repeater.

**August 7th: VE License Exam 6:30 PM,** 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month at the Hope Cottage offices, 540 W International. Bring photo ID, copy of license (if any) and any certificates of completion.

**August 10<sup>th</sup> & 24th: Moosehorn ARC general meeting at 7:00 PM** every other Thursday in the Soldotna Borough q3 Offices on North Binkley. Talk in on 146.88 repeater or 147.42 simplex.

**August 10<sup>th</sup>: SCRC meeting at 7:00 PM** the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of the month at Denny's on Debarr & Bragaw. Talk in on 147.57 simplex.

**August 11<sup>th</sup>: VE License Exams at 2:00 PM.** 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month at Hope Cottage 540 W. International. Be sure to bring photo ID, copy of license (if any) and any certificates of completion.

**July 17th: AARC Board meeting at 7:00 PM** 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month at **Hope Cottage** 540 W. International.

**August 18<sup>th</sup>: ARES General meeting 9:30 AM to 12:00 PM.** 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month. Will be held at Alyeska Building on Bragaw Street. Planning for Field Day and Mayor's Marathon.

**August 18<sup>th</sup>: PARKA Meeting at 11:00 AM.** 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month at Peggy's, across from Merrill Field

**August 31st: MARA meeting at 7PM** the last Friday of the month at the MTA Business Office in Palmer.

**HAMFEST September 15 Saturday** with the Banquet Friday night September 14 at Royal Fork South. Call KL7CC, Jim Wiley Hamfest Chairman at 338-0662 to volunteer to help.

**(Unapproved)**

## **Anchorage Amateur Radio Club Board Meeting, June 19, 2001**

The AARC Board Meeting was held on Tuesday, June 19, 2001, at Hope Community Resources Administrative Building at 540 West International Airport Way. The meeting was opened by President Randy Vallee, AL7PJ at 7:03 p.m. The following officers were in attendance: President Randy Vallee, AL7PJ, Vice-President Jim Larsen, AL7FS, Secretary Keith Clark, WL7CSR, Treasurer Richard Block, KL7RLB, and Activities Manager T.J. Sheffield, KL7TS. The following Board Members were in attendance: David Stevens, KL7EB, Jim Tvrdy, KL7CDG, Bill Reiter, KL7ITI, and Rob Smith, AL7ML. AARC club members, VEC Chairman Jim Wiley, KL7CC, and Membership Chair Fred Erickson KL7VC were also present.

Bill Block, KL7RLB, introduced a guest to the meeting, Lisa Rogers, CPA. Her accounting firm has been retained by the Club to help and advise on several issues.

Minutes from the May 8th Board Meeting were reviewed. Rob Smith, AL7ML, made a motion to accept, it was seconded by Jim Tvrdy, KL7CDG, and passed unanimously.

### **REPORTS**

#### **Health and Welfare:**

No news is good news.

**Membership Report:** Fred Erickson, KL7VC, advises that membership has been steady at 230 for the last several months.

#### **Treasurer's Report:**

Treasurer Richard Block, KL7RLB, says it is nice to report that the IRS has waived the late filing penalties on our tax returns. This saves the Club over \$7,000.00. Dick also indicates that Edie Lynn, KL7EL, will need more food money for Field Day. It was decided to raise the issue when we discuss Field Day. One big item to note, is that the Bingo operation has been substantially reduced; by over \$23,000. This item will be discussed further in the Gaming report. Also, in review of telephone bills, it appears we are still paying for the dedicated line from Girdwood. Jim Larsen, AL7FS, volunteered to review the Club's phone bills and report back to the Board. The Club is pretty much in line with the budget. Dick did note that the insurance for the RV would be a continuing expense item.

#### **Gaming Committee Report:**

The Gaming report was given by Dick, KL7RLB, as Chairman John Lynn, KL7CY, was off celebrating his 50th Birthday. There were lots to report. John, KL7CY, and Dick, KL7RLB, met with Johnny Gibbins, The Bingo Manager, on 6-18, to discuss notification by the Gaming Commission of Revocation of Permit. There appear to be several reasons that triggered this notification:

1. Revenue was down, expenses were up, thereby changing the percentage allowed operating and creating a non-compliance situation.
2. A new Bingo parlor opened across the street, which took some business (revenue).
3. Our parlor opened a restaurant. The start-up expenses add to the imbalance the income/expense ratio. Also, Dick raised the question of how depreciation is handled. Should it even be counted as an itemized as an expense? Dick thinks this problem with the Gaming Board is a serious problem and so asked our guest Lisa Rogers to speak about her qualifications and to help give us some clarification about the situation.

Lisa has worked with non-profits, and with gaming operators, and has an understanding of the system and how the Gaming Board operates. She has done a preliminary review of our financial records and feels comfortable with all the annual tax returns that the Club needs to file.

An estimate of current needs is \$1,500 for filing the Fed. Short year form, \$750 for the State short year, and \$150 to file the 11C form. She would be representing the Club as the Bingo operation has separate filing requirements and could be a potential conflict if she were to represent both sides. She indicated that bingo is a cash business that there needs to be a good set of internal controls. She also feels that this request by the Gaming Board needs to be addressed as soon and as non-confrontational as possible. She also feels that it is not a good idea for us to have no partnership agreement with the other three operators of the parlor. It was then agreed by the Board that she draft a letter of engagement concerning this issue, that is to be signed by an officer of the Club.

Jim Tvrdy, KL7CDG, thinks it would be a good idea for Lisa to review the letter that Johnny sends to the Gaming Board. After some discussion, the Board decided to direct John Lynn to call Johnny and request that he consult with Lisa about her review of the letter before transmittal to the Gaming Board. Dick, KL7RLB, then moved that the Board authorize Lisa to move to make contact with Johnny and to review the correspondence for content and to make sure the letter is sent in the time required. It was seconded by Jim Larsen, AL7FS and passed unanimously. Rob Smith, AL7ML, asked Dick about monthly reporting from the Bingo operator. Dick indicates that we are getting monthly information at this time, which heretofore we were not. Jim, KL7CDG, thought it would be a good idea for John, KL7CY, to pass on to the other 3 owners of the Bingo parlor, what our sentiments are about this out-of-compliance issue, and our desire to have a more formal and structured relationship established. There was a short break

The Board referred back to the Feb. meeting in reference to contacting committees about representation at Board meetings. Secretary Keith Clark, WL7CSR, only sent a couple of e-mails before, so advises he will try to make phone contact before the next Board meeting.

### Contributions and Grants Report:

Jim Larsen, AL7FS, handed out the final Procedures and Policies from the Grant Committee. He then said that the final copies are available electronically for posting to the web. It was suggested that it be put up in PDF format so as to keep anyone from altering any of the text.

### VHF Committee Report:

No report was submitted.

### VEC Report:

Jim Wiley, KL7CC, indicates that he is changing the code exams and could use a helper if anyone is interested. He is still planning on going to the VEC conference in July.

### Field Day:

We have an entire soccer field behind Romig Middle School, near the finish of the Mayors Marathon. Jim, KL7CC, says that the motorhome and tower trailers will be ready. He does need some more folding chairs and tables. Food is taken care of for the meal at 7:30 p.m. Dick, KL7RLB, moved to increase the cash advance to Edie from \$300 to \$500. It was seconded by Rob, AL7ML, and approved unanimously. John Lynn, KL7CY, bought a tent and screen house to use and would like to be reimbursed. That opened discussion about proper procedures for disbursement of club monies. The Board indicates discussion was in no way directed at John, but undertaken to try to find a way to make sure everyone is informed about Club procedures. Jim Larsen, AL7FS, moved to approve approximately \$250.00 for the capitol acquisition of the tent and canopy. Dick, KL7RLB, seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. Jim Wiley, KL7CC also requested authorization to spend up to \$500 for chairs and tables. Dave Stevens, KL7EB, moved the authorization, it was seconded by Bill Reiter, KL7ITI, and passed unanimously.

### Hamfest:

Jim Wiley, KL7CC says that he has been very busy with Field Day and the new motorhome and has not had time to spend on Hamfest. He says he will have a budget and more information next month. He does know that HRO is coming up, and that the banquet will be at the Royal Fork.

### ARES:

Jim, KL7CC, reports that there is a need to address the ARES budget. Also, the motorhome is coming along fine and will be used as, discussed earlier, at Field Day. Also, that ARES will have to address the ongoing operating expenses. Things that ARES will be discussing are:

1. who owns the motorhome
2. who manages the motorhome
3. who owns the 147.300/900 repeater
4. who controls how the repeater is used. (probably to be determined in a meeting with ARES, PARKA, AARC)

### Newsletter Report:

No report was submitted.

### Activities Report:

No report was submitted.

### Old Business:

TJ Sheffield, KL7TS, advises that expenses for Field Day Pins are \$375.00. Rob, AL7ML made a motion for reimbursement. It was seconded by Jim, KL7CDG, and passed unanimously. There was discussion about establishing continuity by using an assistant Treasurer.

### New Business:

There was discussion about establishing a Roberts Rules of Order "Watch Dog".

Feed back about the General meeting format included:

1. Helped not to have the food out too early
2. Good programs that nobody knows about, don't add much
3. Need to consider Linda Worcester as a Publicity specialist Regarding phone lines to Alyeska for the repeater:
  1. Is the line working to link 146.76 to the UHF repeater?
  2. David, KL7EB, says the last he heard that the ski resort's cable was bad and not an ACS problem.
  3. If it's working we should use it, if not, we should "put it to sleep"

Jim Larsen, AL7FS indicate that there is a suggestion by a member to finance a satellite. Though it doesn't sound very reasonable to accomplish, Jim, AL7FS will report back after some ongoing dialog with AMSAT. A guess at cost was \$50,000.00.

There was discussion about paying for space (\$10.00/mo) for an APRS digipeater at the old 37/97 repeater.

Jim Wiley, KL7CC, believes a \$500 contingency authorization is needed. He also thinks we should consider "loads" for the trailer. One possible item being 1500 watt quartz lights – about \$350 per trailer.

A report from the Girl Scout camp indicates that the code practice kits, 100 of which were built, were a huge success. WL7CDC donated a CD for the code practice. It was suggested that we build some of these kits for sale or to put them in the Imaginarium. Theresa has several requests from Youth groups from the Wasilla area. WE are looking at the Boy Scouts to get involved as well, so the club should think about building morse code practice oscillators.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 10:10 p.m.

Submitted by H. Keith Clark, WL7CSR, Secretary

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## **(UNAPPROVED)**

**Anchorage Amateur Radio Club General Meeting, July 6, 2001**

The AARC General Meeting was held on Friday, July 6, 2001, at The Carr-Gottstein Building on the APU Campus. The meeting was opened by President Randy Vallee, AL7PJ at 7:09 p.m. Introductions were the first order of business.

As there was no quorum present, the meeting was informal.

Newsletters were handed out, but there was a note that the newsletters were at a new printer and would be mailed out in a couple of days.

Lil Marvin, NL7DL, made an announcement that she had 3, 12 volt gel cell batteries and several 50 ft. rolls of coax free to a good home.

T.J. Sheffield, KL7TS, gave a very informative presentation on NVIS or Near Vertical Incidence Skywave.

#### **Treasurer's Report:**

Richard Block, KL7RLB, says to go to page 7 of the newsletter for a summary of activity. There were no questions for him. There was discussion about problems with the 30/90 repeater system. There seems to be some type of interference close to the input freq. Dan O'Barr, WL7BD, seems to think it is located in the Eagle River area. Several members will try to do some searching for the problem.

#### **Old Business**

Field Day went well, although a bit short handed. Randy, AL7PJ informed the club that Jim Feaster, KL7KB, Club Trustee, was notified by the FCC that one of our operators during Field Day was operating outside of the 20 meter phone band.

The Mayors Marathon, held on the same day, went off very well. Marathon Director John McCleary was "tickled to death" with the roll amateur radio played. As a result, John Lynn, KL7CY believes we are building a great relationship with the current city government.

One week before Field Day, was the beg Girl Scout Jamboree at the Fair Ground in Palmer. There were 1500 Scouts in attendance. Several club members built some code practice oscillator kits for Teresa, KL0WW, to use in a seminar that she had 72 scouts signed up to attend. 100 kits were built and they used them all up. In conjunction, Wayne Groomer, KL7HHO, and Kent Petty, KL5T, operated HF for ARRL Kid's Day, which was also a big success.

There was a rabbit hunt that was interesting and fun.

Dan, WL7BD, did Satellite contacts with the girls, and advised the Club that MARA was going to sponsor a Bunny Hunt on July the 28<sup>th</sup>.

T.J. KL7 TS, reminded us that the Friends of Pets Dog Jog is coming up on July 28<sup>th</sup>.

It was noted that the Motorhome was in the parking lot if anyone was interested is checking it out.

#### **Hamfest Committee**

Jim Wiley, KL7CC, confirmed that the Hamfest will be a one day event on Sept. 15. It is currently scheduled for the University Center. Free admission to the public. Commercial table will be charged \$50.00 and private tables will be charged \$25.00, with no commission on either table. We still need some chairs and tables. It will run from 9:00 a.m. until 5:30 or 6:00 p.m. HRO has confirmed that they are coming up. Food will be available at the vendors in the Mall. There is no guest speaker lined up as yet. The banquet will be the night before at \$11.00 per head at the Royal Fork.

Dan, WL7BD, told us that he has installed a phone patch on the 09 repeater. \*73 to access and # to hang up. It is a simple patch and is for Valley calls only. He advised that the Troopers are 745-2121.

There being no further topic of interest, the meeting was adjourned by President Randy Vallee, AL7PJ at 8:35 p.m.

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#### **Instructions for the remote auto patch on the 147.09 KL7DJE repeater**

by Dan Obarr, WL7BD

Here are the instructions on how to use the remote auto patch on the 147.09 KL7DJE repeater. The phone line is toll restricted to Mat-Su numbers only. **ALWAYS** transmit for at least 1 second before you speak or push a key on your mike or handy-talkie.

To make a normal call you should first listen to make certain no one else is using the repeater. Then you transmit your callsign and announce that you are "accessing the patch". (You can call it an "auto patch", "phone patch", or just "patch". I don't care.) Then without letting up on your PTT button, transmit the \*73 tones. It is supposed to give you a dial tone for about 4 seconds. You **HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL THE DIAL TONE GOES AWAY** before you transmit again and dial the phone number. Sometimes it does not send out the dial tone. If it doesn't give you a dial tone you can either **WAIT 4-5 SECONDS AND THEN TRANSMIT AGAIN AND DIAL THE PHONE NUMBER**, or you can transmit the # tone and it should I-D: KL7DJE and shut off and you can start over. When it works right and makes the call, you should hear the phone ringing. When the party you are calling answers, inform the person that you are on a radio and #1 that they do not use profanity and #2 that they do not talk while you are talking. You should be able to have a normal conversation by pushing the PTT to talk and letting it up to listen. When you are done, transmit the # tone to hang up and release the PTT. It should I-D: KL7DJE and shut off. Now transmit your callsign and announce that you are "clear the patch". You **CANNOT** talk to someone who is in a noisy environment. The VOX circuit will not let them hear you and they will normally hang up on you. The controller has a 3 minute time-out timer and will hang up after 3 minutes of use regardless of whether you are still on the line or not. If this happens and you are not done with your conversation, simply recall the party you were talking to. You

cannot hang up on an answering machine or busy signal. You just have to wait it out and hang up when it quits transmitting. It will hang up automatically in about 5 seconds whenever there is a busy signal, off hook signal, dial tone or other phone company generated tones on the line.

The controller can store 99 speed-dial numbers. I have already programmed the first nine, and they are:

#### Speed dial Numbers

1\*73 = 745-3128 Smith, Nate KL7DJE

2\*73 = 376-5791 Sandidge, Jerry WL7HE

3\*73 = 373-2569 O'Barr, Dan WL7BD

4\*73 = 495-4024 Williams, Paul KC2BYX

5\*73 = 376-2943 Duncan, Woody KL0TS

6\*73 = 376-8698 Slauson, Ken WB7SFO

7\*73 = 746-1245 Miner, Gary KL7AE

8\*73 = 376-5767 Sandidge, Earnie WL7YW

9\*73 = 745-2121 Alaska State Troopers

To make a call using a speed-dial number, simply transmit your callsign and announce that you are accessing the patch, then without letting up on your PTT button, transmit the speed-dial number. This is easier and faster and you should hear the phone ringing right away. When you are done, transmit the # tone to hang up and release the PTT. It should I-D: KL7DJE and shut off. Now transmit your callsign and announce that you are "clear the patch".

#### Simple Instructions:

\*73 up

Wait 4-5 seconds

Dial the number

# down

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#### HELP!!!

By: **Richard L. Block, KL7RLB, Treasurer**

I am sitting at my computer feeling sorry for myself.

It is a sunny day and I should be out hanging antennas, or at Frigid North buying wire, or driving my coms-mobile around town, or just studying the code—well, wait---lets not overdo it.

But I am doing none of that.

I am paying the club bills.

That's o.k., I volunteered to do it, it is something I know how to do and the club was in need of someone experienced at bookkeeping to get a sense of order in the financial affairs of the club. It takes time, it includes some writing, some sorting, some filing, some computer entry, some computer reports printing and a little bit of thought. And, I do enjoy it. I enjoy doing something I know how to do and am good at and is contributing to the overall good of the club from which I am deriving some knowledge and some pleasure.

I began to think of all the others in the club who is making contributions outside the realm of actual radio but which are vital to the workings of a successful club.

Editing and publishing a newsletter, keeping the club's records and meeting minutes, representing the club in our major business enterprise, managing the club food service, advocating the club's interests at public forums are all necessary activities to keep the club going.

Then there are the activities which are somewhat radio related, but are done for the good of the club. Maintaining and repairing repeater sites, supervising the construction of club assets such as the motor home, trailers and ARES kits, managing the license testing activities and managing and working at club projects such as Field Day, Hamfest, and the several community events at which we provide communication services.

Does the club owe these members something? Not really, although an "atta-boy" would be nice.

Do the club members owe the club something? Perhaps so. Perhaps all the other members of the club who enjoy its benefits could make a small contribution to the "busy work" of the club and reduce the load for the few who are currently getting it done.

At a recent meeting of the Board, it was decided that every officer, except the President and Vice-President, should have an assistant. This means that the Treasurer, Secretary, Committee chairs and project managers would all have assistants, and not just one, but as many assistants as would make sense for that particular function.

There are two other advantages to having assistants. First, should an officer or committee chair have to be absent for an extended period of time, there would be someone familiar with the processes who could keep the office functioning. Has anyone wondered what would happen if the Treasurer was out of state for more than a month? Second, there would be hands on training of possible successors. Part of the workload of a new office holder is figuring out how to perform the function. If there were some advance exposure to the function, the changing of the guard would be relatively seamless.

So here is the pitch. Help!! There must be a member of this club who has a little bit of time to be the Assistant \_\_\_\_\_ (fill in the blank based upon your own interests, talents, available time, etc.). None of the jobs in the club are overwhelming. The more that pitch in the easier and less time demanding it is for all.

Interested? Call the officer whose function interests you. All officers are listed on the front page of this newsletter. Then I can go out to Frigid North and buy wire.

MASS CASUALTY DRILL

Again we are getting too little info way too late, but this is what we know so far. The drill is this next THURSDAY, AUG. 2, 2001. It seems to be a limited scope drill, but they still want our help.

As it stands there will be 3 civilian and one Air Force bus that will need one operator each, 4 Hospitals, that we would like to have 2 operators each, 2 operators on scene, which will be at the BEN BOEKE ICE ARENA, 1 net control, Jim Wiley, and 1, at least at the EOC, and Susan Woods has asked to man that position. At this time we are expecting a 0800 show up, and the drill will probably be over by 1400 hours (just and uneducated guess).

Susan has been trying to get further info and at present this is it. There is a scheduled JMEPG meeting on MONDAY, 7/30, but we are hoping to pry some more info before that. PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE help if you can, I realize that this is extremely short notice, but just think what would happen in a real emergency.

73's

MIKE BORER, WL7CKB, DEC ALASKA DIST. 7 ARES

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### Nome, Alaska

This little town got a few of us very interested in communicating along our road system; which is basically 3 highways (dirt) that terminate roughly 75 miles each. For the size of the community, we are fortunate to have this much road system. Consequently, many of the locals have cabins or camps along these corridors. We used to use CB's, and some implemented marine VHF, but it was inevitable that we came up with something that worked on a reliable basis.

Four years ago, a handful of us started the SPARC club with no money. We all chipped in a few dollars and launched one repeater on Anvil Mountain; which is the old White Alice communications site, elevation 1100 feet, just 4 miles North of Nome. The old 65-foot parabolic dishes are still there, complete with feed horns. We mounted a dual band Diamond antenna on top of a feed horn, utilizing the background dish to reflect and radio waves. We found that with this antenna coupled to a dual band handheld in cross-band repeat mode, tied to a Mirage dual-band 35-watt amp, we could communicate 70 miles out! Viola!

That was the start. We now own 3 Daniels Electronics full-fledged duplex VHF repeaters, which incorporate UHF, drop links to Nome. Basically, these units are installed on mountain tops in strategic locations to both access the heavily traveled roads, as well as link back to Nome UHF to our Vertex VX-5000 base repeater Hub. This package is located just outside the FAA's outer marker at their VOR site, 3 miles east of Nome. From there, we linked two Alinco 610 cross-banders in

two locations in town here to give us a VHF repeater for local use.

In a nutshell, talking in Nome brings up the entire system. The 146.94 minus links to the 447.00 Vertex hub (it is controlled by a Pacific Research controller, very nice, with patch), which in turn repeats on 442.00 to all our mountain repeaters (their UHF input), which they then send separate VHF outputs. Conversely, wherever you are on the road system, you have a possibility of any 3 VHF inputs, not including the local one, to connect to the Hub.

It all works good. We have large battery powered comshell sites on the three mountains, powered each by 4-53 watt solar panels. They don't do much good from late November through late February due to the darkness, but the large battery supply carries us through. The Daniels equipment is of their low power consuming variety, and they do not draw much at an idle. All three sites use Diamond X-50 dual band antennas housed in our own designed plastic radomes to protect them from icing conditions. Has worked fine for years now.

Each Daniels, complete with duplexers, sets us back about 15 grand. We have a gaming permit we use to raise funds here, through bingo and pull-tabs, so basically the community has funded this indirectly. However, we also team with the local search and rescue folks to provide emergency coms when they need it.

The Iditarod Dog Race also uses our system between White Mountain and Nome for their communications each year. It is nice for them.

Though we have over 100 members, like any club, we have a core group of less than 20 of us that do most all the work. We have several very technical oriented fellows on the club to offer what they can, and the rest of us are worker bees. I have been to all of our mountain sites via snowmobile, ATV, or helicopter to provide maintenance.

It was nice to hear you when you were here. If you ever get back up this way again, I hope to hear from you. I will be taking my family on an Alaska vacation, driving from Anchorage up to Fairbanks and then out to the Kenai Peninsula and hopefully a side trip to Valdez in August. I will bring along my HT and hope to communicate with others while mobile!

If you have ham friends coming this way, let them know they have access to our system, and what it will do. I am in the phone book, and monitor all the time, so I can be contacted readily. I have lived here all of my 43 years, so this is home.

Take care and hope to hear from you again,

73's

Nate Perkins, KL3NP

Email at home: perkins@nook.net

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## FREE AMATEUR RADIO CLASS

### FAST TRACK FIVE DAY AMATEUR RADIO CLASS

You are invited to in a marathon evening 5-day amateur radio class for the technician class license and upgrades. For many years, amateur radio instructors Rick and Lil Marvin have been requested to conduct a fast-track amateur radio class. With a lot of coordination and luck, and working with Gordon West, the Marvins have succeeded in putting together a five-day marathon amateur radio class, which will run from Monday, September 10th through Friday, September 14th. Interested students must meet the following requirements before beginning this marathon class:

1. Students interested in the technician class license must have completed reading Gordon West's Technician Class books at least two weeks prior to the first day of class.
2. Students interested in the General class licenses must have completed reading Gordon West's General Class license books at least two weeks prior to the first day of class.
3. All students must complete a pre-study questionnaire for the class of license for which they are studying at least two weeks prior to the first day of class.
4. Students interested in meeting the Morse Code requirement must obtain their Morse Code study tapes and **BEGIN MORSE CODE STUDY NOW!**

Study materials and questionnaires may be obtained from Rick and Lil Marvin, who can be reached at 277-6741 or [rlment@alaska.net](mailto:rlment@alaska.net). They will be using Gordon West study materials exclusively. Students using their own Gordon West study materials must make sure that the study materials are current. Due to limited available space, students must register for this marathon class on or before August 31st. There will be no fee for the class other than the cost of the study materials. The location will be the Ann Stevens/American Red Cross building, 235 E. 8th Avenue, second storey. The time will be from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM.

Students will have a rare opportunity to meet with Gordon West, and be taught by him and prepped by him to help students pass their amateur radio exams. They will find the world of amateur radio to be a unique one which will open many avenues of learning and adventure, and offer them a chance to meet and talk to other amateur radio operators all over the United State and the world. See you all at the ham class!!

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#### Where are you?

We haven't seen you in several months!  
Please help us find out why you haven't  
been around lately! We need your  
friendly voice and kind words at our  
meetings. We need you on the many

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## SMILES

I am sure many of you remember the song "*Brighten the Corner Where You Are*". A Smile does just that and anyone

who sees you can't help but smile back. **So -----**

**---SMILE---**

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### Where are you?

We haven't seen you in several months! Please help us find out why you haven't been around lately! We need your friendly voice and kind words at our meetings. We need you on the many nets that meet each week. Many of you we see only at Hamfests, why not more often? Let us know how we can get you back with us. The reason for a club to exist is so we can meet persons with like interests. If we are to continue as a viable club we need everyone to help improve the club and be active members.



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# ANCHORAGE HAMFEST 2001

September 15, University Center Mall  
One day only!! FREE admission

Location: University Center Mall, Old Seward Highway and 36<sup>th</sup>

In the former Pay & Save store location

**Doors Open to the Public at 9:00 AM, Close 6:00 PM**

**Grand Prize Yaesu FT-817 All-band, All mode portable backpack transceiver  
(hf/6M/vhf/uhf)**

**Other prizes: Alinco DR-605TQ Dual-band VHF/UHF mobile transceiver,  
Alinco DJ-c5t credit-card size dual band ht, palm pilot pda, garmin gps  
receiver**

(Prize drawing tickets \$1.00 each, must be present to win – list of prizes subject to change depending on availability )

Featured Vendors

*Ham Radio Outlet*

**Kenwood – ICOM  
Yaesu – Alinco**

**Alaska Computer Brokers**

See LIVE displays of Amateur Radio activities and equipment - Find out first hand about Amateur Satellites, Emergency Communications Systems, Licensing, Computers and Ham radio, Public Service Activities and more!

License Testing 11:00 AM, 2:00 PM

**HAMFEST SPECIAL!!** World famous ham radio instructor Gordon West will be offering a special ham radio licensing course, 5 days to your ham radio license! No charge for course (you must obtain course materials, and study them ahead of time!). September 10 thru 14, 6-9 PM at the Red Cross, 8<sup>th</sup> and Cordova. To obtain study materials and reserve a seat, contact Rick or Lil Marvin, at 277-6741 to reserve a seat.

**Hamfest Banquet Dinner**

**Friday, Sept 14, 6:30 PM until 10:00 PM**

Royal Fork Restaurant (south) - Old Seward Hwy about ¼ mile S. of Dimond Blvd. \$11.00 each per head – all you can eat, includes drinks and dessert

Tables: \$25 individual, \$50 commercial – no added commission charges. To reserve table space, call John Lynn, KL7CY, at 337-1091, or Jim Wiley, KL7CC, at 338-0662. Tables may be paid at door, but space must be reserved before event start.

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ISN'T THAT YOUR CALL IN THERE? THAT  
LOOKS LIKE THE SAME RADIO YOU SOLD FOR  
\$ 25 ABOUT FIFTEEN YEARS AGO!